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(12) United States Patent Binder

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(54) SEQUENTIALLY OPERATED MODULES

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- (60) Provisional application No. 61/267,595, filed on Dec. 8, 2009, provisional application No. 61/254,882, filed on Oct. 26, 2009, provisional application No. 61/225,756, filed on Jul. 15, 2009.
- (51) **Int. Cl.** *H01J 1/00* (2006.01) *H02J 1/00* (2006.01)
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- (52) U.S. Cl.

(58) Field of Classification Search

CPC A63H 33/04; A63H 33/042; H04L 65/607; H04L 67/306; H04L 69/22; H04L 29/06; H04L 67/16; G06F 21/88; G06F 9/00; G06F 13/387; G06F 15/161

USPC 446/91, 124, 297, 318, 397, 484 See application file for complete search history.

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(57) ABSTRACT

Method, modules and a system formed by connecting the modules for controlling payloads. An activation signal is propagated in the system from one module to the modules connected to it. Upon receiving an activation signal, the module (after a pre-set or random delay) activates a payload associated with it, and transmits the activation signal (after another pre-set or random delay) to one or more modules connected to it. The system is initiated by a master module including a user activated switch producing the activation signal. The activation signal can be propagated in the system in one direction from the master to the last module, or carried bi-directionally allowing two way propagation, using a module which revert the direction of the activation signal propagation direction. A module may be individually powered by an internal power source such as a battery, or connected to an external power source such as AC power.

38 Claims, 156 Drawing Sheets

